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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/833,159	04/12/2001	Barbara A. Van Dyke	FORE-82	1518

7590

05/28/2003

Ansel M. Schwartz
Suite 304
201 N. Craig Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

EXAMINER

HAMMOND, BRIGGITTE R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 05/28/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/833,159

Applicant(s)

Van Dyke

Examiner

Brigitte R. Hammond

Art Unit

2833



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Apr 25, 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 7, 8, 10-13, and 15-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 7, 8, 10-13, and 15-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on April 25, 2003 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 1-4,7,8,10-13 and 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. It is unclear to the examiner how the power filter layer filters power? What are the well known filtering techniques? Is it an active or passive power filter?

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1,2 and 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Newton, Jr. in view of applicant's admitted prior art. Regarding claims 1-4, Newton, Jr. discloses a power entry ground panel 40 comprising an input terminal block 18, a support block 12 supporting and isolating terminal pin 20, a mating connection 42, an output connector 28, and a filtering layer assembly 14 positioned about the terminal pin. Newton, Jr. does not disclose how much power the terminal block receives nor the filtering layer assembly filtering power. However, applicant discloses on page 5, line 25, that "150 amps of 48 V DC power" is a "traditional Method of operation" and applicant also discloses on page 6, lines 8-12, that "well known filtering capabilities" are "incorporated into the terminal block" by filter layer 34 for filtering power. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to *modify* the panel of Newton, Jr. by providing 150 amps of 48 V DC power and to use a filter, since providing 150 ^{for providing power} amps of 48 V DC power is a traditional method of operation as stated by applicant and using a filter for desired end-use applications, as taught by Newton et al.

Regarding claim 2, the ground panel of Newton, Jr. is in contact with the terminal block.

Regarding claims 11-13, the method claims are inherent to the device.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 7 and 15 (and the claims that depend therefrom) contain allowable subject matter.

7. Claims 3 and 4 contain allowable subject matter.

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8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: regarding claim 3, the prior art does not disclose an output connector, in combination with the other limitations of the base claim.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4 and 10-13 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Hurtubise et al. 6,315,580, Kolody et al. 6,359,770, Hutson et al. 6,091,609 Mullenbach et al. 5,808,876, Kahoun 5,989,073 and Benes 6,059,608 were cited as similar terminal blocks for panel connectors.

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brigitte R. Hammond whose telephone number is (703) 305-0032.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday from 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley, can be reached on (703) 308-2319. Papers may be faxed directly to Group 2833 at (703) 308-7722.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

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Brigitte R. Hammond

May 14, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Paumen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent.

Gary Paumen
Primary Examiner